

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-4 and 6-17 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 6 are amended, claim 5 is canceled, and claims 16-17 are added.

Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), claims 1-4 and 15 were rejected over Brezina et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,705,769) ("Brezina") in view of Kryzak (U.S. Patent No. 6,491,446), claims 1, 3, 4 and 9-14 were rejected over Hargis et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,792,171) ("Hargis") in view of Kryzak, and claims 5-8 were rejected over Hargis in view of Kryzak and further in view of Ono (JP 07-202357). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the features of claim 5. Accordingly, the rejections based on Brezina in view of Kryzak, and Hargis in view of Kryzak are moot as these references were not bases for the rejection of claim 5. Thus, the introduction of the subject matter of claim 5 into claim 1 moots these rejections.

In regard to the rejection of claims 5-8, Hargis in view of Kryzak and Ono fail to disclose an optical communication device having a through hole connected to a first grounding film and a second grounding film in which the through hole is arranged only between a signal line on a transmission side and a signal line on a receiving side of a flexible insulating substrate, as recited in claim 1.

Hargis in view of Kryzak and Ono fail to disclose all of the features recited in claim 1 because Hargis and Kryzak do not disclose through holes, and Ono discloses through holes 5 arranged on both sides of signal-line pattern 31 and signal-line pattern 31'. Ono thus does not disclose through holes arranged only between a signal line on a transmission side and a signal line on a receiving side of a flexible insulating substrate.

In view of the foregoing, the applied art fails to disclose all of the features recited in the pending claims. It is respectfully requested that the rejections be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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